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10 JUN 1926  
TROPICAL DISEASE  
BOROUGH OF STOURBRIDGE.

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*Annual Reports*

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Sanitary Inspector

FOR 1925.

Went

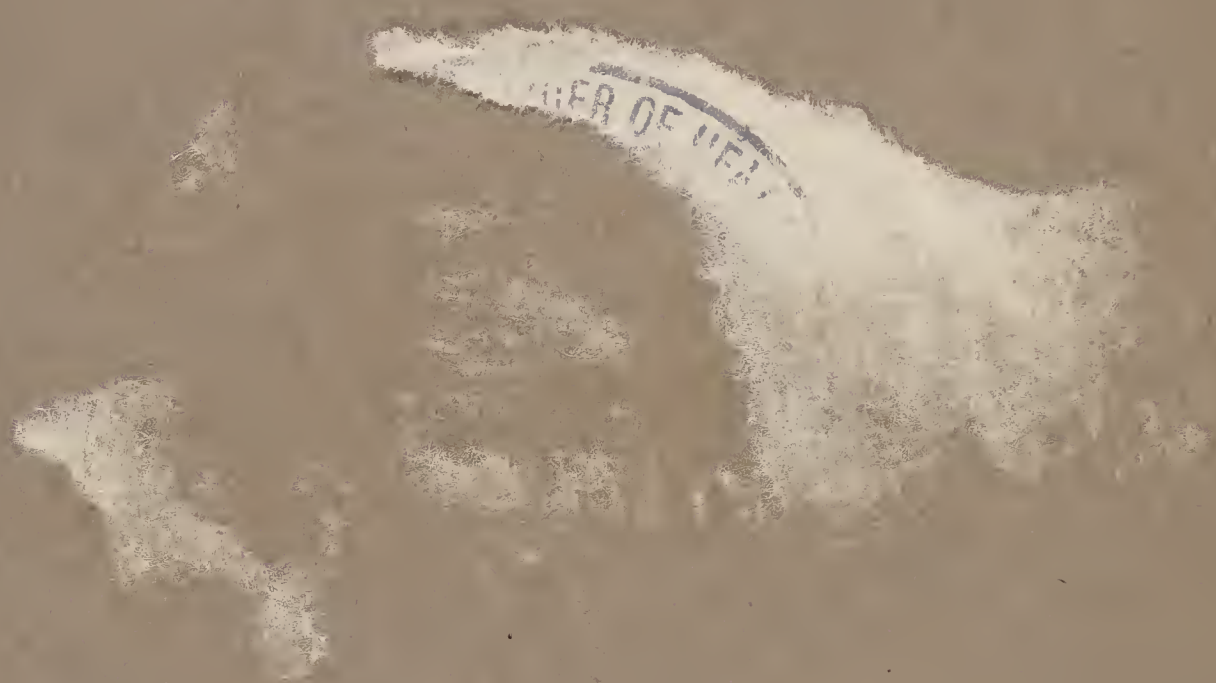
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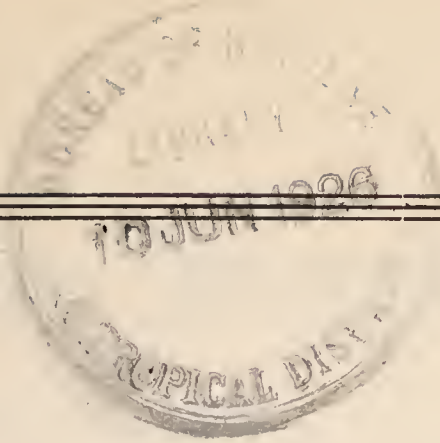
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*Stourbridge :*

MARK & MOODY, LTD., PRINTERS & STATIONERS.

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**BOROUGH OF STOURBRIDGE.**

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(70533)

# BOROUGH OF STOURBRIDGE.

*Mayor :*

RANDLE L. MATHEWS, Esq., J.P.

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## SANITARY COMMITTEE :

Alderman L. J. Cook, M.R.I.P.H., *Chairman.*

Councillor F. W. Biggs

„ C. Broughton, J.P.

„ Mrs. Francis

„ J. Harrington

Councillor W. Harris

„ H. S. Walker

„ J. Wright

„ S. Wright, J.P.

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*Medical Officers of Health :*

JOSEPH R. SINTON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., to 27th August, 1925.

GEORGE J. DUDLEY, O.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., from 28th August,  
to 14th October, 1925.

GEOFFREY DUDLEY, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., since 15th  
October, 1925.

*Sanitary Inspector :*

ARTHUR KENT, F.S.I.A., A.R.S.I., Cert. Meat and Food Inspector.



## STATISTICAL SUMMARY, 1925.

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Area of District	...	...	...	...	...	1920 Acres
Population, Census 1921	...					Crude, 18023 ; Corrected, 18016
Population, figures supplied by Registrar General, (1925)	...					18770
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	...	...	...	...		4251
Number of Inhabited Houses (1925)	...	...	...	...		4472
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921)					...	4608 approx
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1925)					...	4987 approx.
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£75,094
Sum represented by Penny Rate			...	...	...	£299
Birth Rate, net	...	...	...	...	...	18·007
Death Rate, net	...	...	...	...	...	12·25
Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Births				...	...	82·86
Zymotic Death Rate	...	...	...	...	...	·32
Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis				...	...	·95

BOROUGH OF STOURBRIDGE.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TOGETHER WITH

VITAL STATISTICS

FOR THE YEAR 1925.

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TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND MEMBERS OF THE STOURBRIDGE TOWN  
COUNCIL.

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MR. MAYOR, LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Report for the year 1925, of the health and vital statistics relating to the Borough. This Report is a "Survey Report," as required by the Ministry of Health, giving details relating to the past five years.

## Area.

The area of the District is 1920 acres, and is sub-divided as follows :—

Stourbridge	...	...	...	453 acres.
Wollaston	...	...	...	476 „
Upper Swinford	...	...	...	991 „



### Population.

The population according to the Census of 1921, was 18,016 for the entire district, the population of the sub-districts being :—

Stourbridge	...	...	...	11,254
Wollaston	...	...	...	3,160
Upper Swinford	...	...	...	3,602

### Estimated Population.

The population at the middle of 1925, according to the Registrar General's estimate, was 18,770.

### Physical Features and General Character of the District.

The Town rises from the River Stour, which is the boundary of Worcestershire and Staffordshire, and is on the north side of the Town. The height above sea level at the River Boundary is 216 feet rising to 326 feet at the Borough Boundary adjoining Bromsgrove Rural District at Upper Swinford. The highest point in the Borough being 406 feet above sea level.

The Subsoil, excepting a portion of the district on the north side, is red sand stone.

The Town is principally residential. On the south and west sides there is open country.

The principal trades carried on are Ironworks, the manufacture of Spades, Shovels, Chains, Anvils, and Frost Cogs, Fire Bricks, Gas Retorts, Earthenware Baths and Sinks, Skin Rugs, Chamois Leather, and Galvanising Works. A few domestic Nail Shops still exist.

The Borough own the Gasworks, which are situated in the Urban District of Amblecote, also, in conjunction with the Urban Districts of Amblecote, Lye and Wollescote, are owners of the Water undertaking.

No particular diseases are attributable to the occupations carried on in the district.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### Births.

There were 338 Births registered belonging to this district, of which 166 were males and 172 females.

20 of the Births were illegitimate children (15 males, 5 females).

The Birth Rate was 18.007.

The percentage of illegitimate children to total births is 5.9.

The Birth Rate for 1925 is the lowest recorded since 1919, when it was 16.90.

The previous Births and Birth Rates were as follows:—

		Births		Birth Rate.
1924	...	363	...	19.54
1923	...	383	...	20.07
1922	...	361	...	19.63
1921	...	420	...	23.09
1920	...	423	...	23.48

The Birth Rate for England and Wales for 1925 was 18.3.

### Deaths.

The number of Deaths registered in the district during the year was 184. (92 males and 92 females).

The Death Rate for 1925 was 9.80.

There were, however, 46 deaths of persons (28 males, 18 females) residents of this Borough, occurring outside the district, which for statistical purposes have to be included in the death rate for this district. These deaths occurred as follows:—

					M.		F.	Total.
Poor Law Institution, Wordsley	...	...	...	...	8	...	6	14
Corbett Hospital	...	...	...	...	7	...	3	10
General Hospital, Birmingham	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	3
County Lunatic Asylum, Bromsgrove	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Knightwick Sanatorium	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Poor Law Institution, Kidderminster	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Lye	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
Hayley Green Infectious Diseases Hospital	...	...	...	...	2	...	—	2
Eastbourne	...	...	...	...	1	...	—	1
Gorleston	...	...	...	...	1	...	—	1
Blackpool	...	...	...	...	—	...	1	1
Chipping Sodbury	...	...	...	...	—	...	1	1
Isolation Hospital, Bromsgrove	...	...	...	...	1	...	—	1
Shifnal Cottage Hospital	...	...	...	...	1	...	—	1
London	...	...	...	...	—	...	1	1
Bournemouth	...	...	...	...	1	...	—	1
Worcester	...	...	...	...	—	...	1	1
					—		—	—
Totals	...	...	...	...	28		18	46

Thus making the total deaths belonging to the district 230, and giving a net Corrected Death Rate of 12.25.

The Death Rate for England and Wales was 12.2.

The Deaths and Death Rates of previous years were :—

		Deaths.		Death Rates.
1924	...	194	...	10.44
1923	...	219	...	11.83
1922	...	238	...	12.94
1921	...	223	...	12.26
1920	...	230	...	12.15

The mean ages at death of the deaths registered in this district are males 50.4, females 47.5.

The net mean ages of death (*i.e.*, deaths occurring inside and outside the district) are males 51.4, females 48.2.

The mean ages at death of the deaths of persons belonging to this district, but registered outside, being males 55.03, females 5.18.

Two women died in consequence of Childbirth,

## CAUSES OF DEATH.

	1925		1924		1923		1922		1921	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Enteric Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	2	1	—
Diphtheria ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	2
Influenza ... ..	4	4	4	4	1	4	4	4	2	1
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal meningitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	10	8	2	6	7	10	8	8	11	8
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	—	1	1	1	2	2	3	—	2	2
Cancer, Malignant Disease ... ..	14	12	8	16	6	14	7	19	12	10
Rheumatic Fever ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Diabetes ... ..	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	2	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc. ... ..	5	11	2	10	12	9	11	7	10	6
Heart Disease ... ..	28	16	15	14	13	16	16	21	14	21
Arterio-Sclerosis ... ..	—	1	1	1	3	1	3	4	—	—
Bronchitis ... ..	6	14	10	12	10	12	11	14	11	8
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	15	6	9	7	6	3	10	10	8	3
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	—	7	2	3	—	—	—	1	2	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ... ..	2	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	—	—
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years) ... ..	1	1	1	—	1	1	2	—	1	2
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ... ..	1	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Acute and Chronic Nephritis ... ..	3	2	1	—	4	—	2	3	1	2
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition ... ..	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Congenital Debility and Malform- ation, Premature Birth ... ..	3	3	6	4	6	7	3	5	5	5
Suicide ... ..	1	—	3	2	2	1	2	—	—	—
Other Deaths from Violence ... ..	1	4	4	1	3	2	6	3	2	2
Other Defined Diseases ... ..	22	15	16	22	29	23	22	18	28	30
Causes ill-defined or unknown ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
TOTAL ... ..	120	110	89	105	109	110	113	125	118	105

### Infantile Mortality.

There were 28 deaths of Infants under one year of age registered in the district.

The Infant Mortality Rate for 1925, was 82.86.

The average number of Infantile Deaths for the previous ten years is 27.5.

The Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales for 1925 was 75 per 1000 births.

The following table gives the total deaths of infants, and the percentage rates to registered births from 1915, together with percentage rates in England and Wales.

Year.	No. of Deaths.			Percentage.		
				Percentage.	England and Wales.	
1915	...	43	...	11.05	...	—
1916	...	26	...	7.10	...	9.1
1917	...	28	...	8.75	...	9.7
1918	...	29	...	9.03	...	9.7
1919	...	15	...	4.91	...	8.9
1920	...	34	...	8.03	...	8.0
1921	...	22	...	5.23	...	8.3
1922	...	30	...	8.03	...	7.7
1923	...	25	...	6.52	...	6.9
1924	...	23	...	6.33	...	7.5

Table Showing Causes of Infantile Deaths and Months in which they occurred.

DISEASE.		Jan.	Feb.	Mch	Aprl	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Bronchitis and Broncho-														
Pneumonia	...	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	6	10
Premature Birth	...	1	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	6
Asphyxiated in Bed	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Inattention at Birth	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Marasmus	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Atelectasis	...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Kidney Disease	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diarrhoea	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Intussusception	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Pyloric Stenosis	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Lobar Pneumonia	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Totals	...	2	2	1	3	2	2	5	1	—	—	2	8	28

The increase in the Infantile Mortality Rate from 63·36 in 1924, to 82·86 in 1925, was largely due to the fall in the Birth Rate, which was 19·54 in 1924, and 18·007 in 1925. Diseases of the Respiratory Tract, Bronchitis and Pneumonia were the main causes of infantile deaths.

**Poor Law Relief.**

The amounts granted in Poor Law Relief during the past five years were as follows :—

			Stourbridge.			Upper Swinford.			Wollaston.			Total.		
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1921	...	...	1505	6	10½	215	10	5	259	6	0	1980	3	3½
1922	...	...	3648	7	2	518	12	8	531	2	5	4698	2	3
1923	...	...	2160	1	8½	221	17	8	458	0	5½	2839	19	10
1924	...	...	1923	16	8	234	0	11	384	1	9½	2541	19	4½
1925	...	...	1699	1	8½	247	17	10	280	13	0½	2227	12	7
Totals			£10936	14	11½	£1437	19	6	£1913	3	8½	£14287	17	4

**Gratuitous Medical Relief.**

This District is well served with Institutions where Medical Relief may be obtained.

The Stourbridge Dispensary, established in 1832, is in Worcester Street, and has a Resident Medical Officer.

Corbett Hospital, Amblecote, is near the Borough Boundary, and is supported by this and surrounding districts. The Birmingham and Dudley Hospitals are also easily accessible.

**GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.**

**Hospitals Provided or Subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council.**

Tuberculosis	...	Hayley Green and Knightwick, both situated outside the Borough and under the control of the County Council.
Maternity	...	None.
Children	...	None.
Fever	...	Stourbridge and Halesowen Infectious Diseases Hospital.
Smallpox	...	Ditto.
Other	...	Corbett Hospital, Amblecote, Staffs., supported by this and surrounding districts. Birmingham Queen's, General and Children's Hospitals, and Dudley (Guest) Hospital are easily accessible.

Sanatorium treatment of Tuberculosis is under the control of the County Council.

The Infectious Diseases Hospital at Hayley Green, as well as a Smallpox Hospital, are provided by the Local Authorities of the Borough of Stourbridge, Urban District Council of Lye and Wollescote, and the Urban District Council of Halesowen.

The Smallpox Hospital is kept in readiness for any case which might occur.

There is no Institutional Provision for unmarried mothers in the district.

The Corbett General Hospital is situated in the Urban District of Amblecote and is supported by this and the adjoining districts. There are 32 beds.

Ambulance Facilities :—

- (a) For Infectious Cases a motor ambulance is provided by the Joint Infectious Diseases Hospital.
- (b) For Non-Infectious Cases. A Motor Ambulance, which is kept at the Fire Station, and a Motor Ambulance provided by the Territorial Association and kept at Mr. Weaver's Garage, High Street.

#### **Clinics and Treatment Centres.**

The Maternity and Infant Welfare Centre at No. 40, New Road, is under the control of a Voluntary Committee and a contribution is made by the Town Council to the funds of this Committee. The Town Council own the premises occupied by the Centre.

The Centre is open on Tuesday and Wednesday in each week from 2 till 5 p.m., and every morning from 9 till 10.

Dr. Lloyd Francis attends at the Centre weekly on Tuesday afternoons.

Virol and Dried Milk are supplied at the Centre.

A Milk Fund has been provided by the Ladies of the Committee, which has been generously aided by the Mayor's Distress Fund. Milk, Cod Liver Oil, etc., are given from this Fund in cases of sickness and distress.

Ladies of the Committee assist at the Welfare Centre in helping to weigh the babies and giving tea to the mothers.

Simple "talks" on Health Subjects are given by visiting ladies and the Health Visitor.

The Infant Consultation Centre Committee consists of President, Mrs. Evers (White Hall) ; Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. Kent ; Assistant Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. E. Austin ; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. A. G. Wedgwood ; Town Council Representative, Councillor Mrs. Francis ; Health Visitor, Miss E. E. Noke (State Registered Nurse, C.M.B., Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Health Visitors and School Nurses and for Maternity and Child Welfare Workers, also the Diploma for Health Visitors recognized by the Board of Education and Ministry of Health).

*Health Visitor's Report.* Notifications of Births received from the County Medical Officer, January 1st to December 31st, 1925 :—

Males	...	...	...	159
Females	...	...	...	181
Still Births	...	...	...	18
				—
				358

Number of Primary visits paid to homes	...	324
Re-visits to children under one year of age	...	2109
Re-visits to children over one year of age	...	2278
		—
		4711

Attendances at Infant Consultation Centre :—

Number of Children in attendance at the Centre during						
1925	...	...	...	...	...	466
Total number of attendances	...	...	...	...	...	3926

A School Clinic at the Infant Welfare Centre and a Tuberculosis Clinic at the Stourbridge Dispensary are controlled by the County Council.

Sanatorium treatment of Tuberculosis is administered by the County Council.

There is no provision for the treatment of Venereal Diseases in the Borough, but cases are treated, amongst other places, at the Corbett Hospital, which is just outside the Borough Boundary.

#### **Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.**

The Staff consists of a part-time Medical Officer of Health and a whole-time Sanitary Inspector. One half of the salaries of these Officers is contributed by Exchequer grants.

There is also an Assistant to the Sanitary Inspector and a lady clerk.

The Sanitary Inspector has the Diplomas of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Meat and other Foods. The Sanitary Inspector also acts as Inspector under the Petroleum Acts and Shops Acts.

### Professional Nursing in the Home.

The Stourbridge District Nursing Association, which is a voluntary organisation, employs three Nurses, whose services are available for residents. A portion of the District, viz., Old Swinford, has a Parochial Nurse.

There is no provision for professional nursing of cases of Infectious Diseases treated at home.

### Midwives.

The Midwives Act is administered by the County Council. There are seven Midwives practising in the district, one being in connection with the Local Maternity and Infant Welfare Centre.

### Adoptive Acts, Byelaws, Etc.

The following are the Adoptive Acts, Byelaws and Local Regulations relating to Public Health, in force in the District, with the date of adoption :—

Stourbridge Improvement Act	...	...	...	1866
Stourbridge Improvement Commissioners Act	...	...	...	1891
Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890	...	...	...	1891
Public Health Act Amendment Act, 1890	...	...	...	26 Nov. 1901
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907	...	...	...	April, 1910
Housing of Working Classes Act, 1890, Part III.	...	...	...	Dec. 1901
Byelaws :—				
New Streets and Buildings	...	...	...	15th Sep., 1890
Nuisances	...	...	...	20th Oct., 1911
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	15th Sep., 1890
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	15th Sep., 1890
Tents, Vans, Sheds and Similar Structures	...	...	...	10th Jan., 1917
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	15th Sep., 1890
Houses Let in Lodgings	...	...	...	10th Jan., 1917
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	...	...	...	26th June, 1916
Cleansing of Footpaths and Pavements and Cleansing of Earthclosets and Cesspools	...	...	...	10th Jan., 1917

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

### Water Supply.

This is adequate for all requirements and is pumped direct into mains from the deep well situate at Coalbournbrook, in Amblecote. The bore hole is 500 feet deep and was reconstructed in 1914. A Reservoir at Doctor's Hill in the Borough, serves to augment the pressure, the surplus water from the mains during the night going into the Reservoir. The supply is constant. There are a few houses, situated in common yards, where the water supply is obtained from a tap which is jointly used by two or more houses, but most of the houses in the Borough have a water tap inside. The supply pipes are galvanized iron.

The results of Analyses of the water by the County Analyst are as follows :—

			May 1924.	Oct. 1925.
			(Grains per gallon).	
Solids in suspension	...	...	slight trace	none
Solids in solution	dried at 100°C.	...	42.0	37.8
Ditto	appearance	...	white	white
Ditto	after ignition	...	33.6	32.2
Behaviour of solids on ignition		...	No visible change.	No visible change.
Phosphates	...	...	none	none
Chlorine calculated as common salt	...	...	8.1	8.1
Free and saline ammonia	...	...	.0005	.0004
Albuminoid ammonia	...	...	.001	.001
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours	...	...	none	none
Nitrogen in nitrates	...	...	.8	.8
Deposit	...	...	Very slight brown.	none
Smell	...	...	none	none
Poisonous metals	...	...	none detected	none detected
Hardness : Permanent	...	...	9.2°	11.2°
Temporary	...	...	9.8°	10.8°
Total			19°	22°

The Corporation Baths and several works pump water from their own wells. There are still a few houses procuring their water supply from pump wells. These wells are kept under observation. A considerable number of the houses supplement the water supply by having rain water cisterns on their premises.

### Rivers and Streams.

The River Stour has no pollution in the Borough but passing through manufacturing districts before reaching here, it sometimes becomes polluted with acid and other waste, but not to any great extent.

### Drainage and Sewage.

The Town was sewered in 1887. The sewage flows by gravitation to a pumping station in the Borough and is pumped to the Stourbridge Main Drainage Board's sewage farms at Whittington, in the Rural District of Seisdon (Staffs.) where it is treated on the Broad irrigation principle.

With the exception of a few houses situate on the outskirts, all the dwelling houses are provided with water closets and efficient drainage, the drains being intercepted from the sewers with intercepting traps. Three houses have cesspools.

### Closet Accommodation.

The conversion of privies into water closets was practically completed in 1909. About 9 cottages and farmhouses together with one brickworks, on the outskirts, still have privies, these houses are situate in localities where there are no sewers. Earth closets are provided at the Cemetery house and one other house in the Borough. Previous to 1901 some slop water closets were put in, many of these have since been removed and W.C.'s with fresh water flushing apparatus put in. For a considerable time past the Town Council have required a separate W.C. for each new house and additional W.C.'s required at premises where there was one W.C. for two or more houses.

About 5 per cent. of the houses have slop water closets, including those houses where there is a fresh water W.C. inside the house and a slop W.C. outside. With the exception of the few privies mentioned, all the other houses are provided with fresh W.C.'s. The Sanitary Inspector's report gives details of conversions and additional W.C.'s since 1901.

### Scavenging.

The Scavenging is carried out by direct labour and until the end of May 1925, the refuse was destroyed at the Corporation Destructor, erected in 1904, since the end of May the refuse has been deposited at the Birmingham Street Depot, in accordance with the recommendation of the Sub-Committee which was presented to the Sanitary Committee on 11th May, 1925, and adopted by the Town Council on 25th May, 1925. The following is the Report of the Sanitary Committee to the Town Council.

"Your Committee report that they have received and considered  
 "the Report of a specially appointed Sub-Committee in regard to the  
 "adoption of a new system for the disposal of Refuse. On the 19th  
 "February, 1925, the Sub-Committee met an Official of the Ministry  
 "of Health and discussed with him the merits of the various methods  
 "adopted throughout the country, and, as the result of the interview  
 "and subsequent consideration, your Committee have resolved to  
 "recommend:—

- "(1) That the present Refuse Destructor, as such, be discarded, the  
 "future use to which it shall be put to be decided later.
- "(2) That for the present all House Refuse be tipped at the Birmingham  
 "Street Depot by being spread over small areas of land there, in  
 "accordance with the Ministry of Health Regulations.

"The placing of soil on the layers of house refuse prevents  
 "decomposition, breeding of flies, etc., and the system could  
 "eventually be extended to other parts of the Borough to  
 "reclaim low lying ground, where obtainable.

- “(3) That weighing of Refuse, as far as possible, be carried out in order to check the weight of Refuse delivered, and that lighter carts and horses be used for the collection of Refuse instead of heavy carts and heavy draught horses as at present.

“Your Committee point out that the cost of the disposal by the present Destructor is approximately 7/- per ton, including Loan Charges, and if continued it will be necessary for the Cells of the Destructor to be reconstructed, which will be another capital charge. The area at the Depot which can be utilized for tipping of Refuse will last for many years, and the use thereof will reclaim land which is now frequently flooded.

“The suggested methods will not require the expenditure of any more Capital, and the labour necessary to keep the Tip in order will be less than that necessary to run the present Refuse Destructor.”

The ashpits are emptied as required, and the contents of movable ashbins collected weekly. The contents of the very few earth closets are disposed of by the occupiers. The few privies are cleared as required and the contents buried. Three houses have cesspools, one being cleansed by the occupier and the other two by the Town Council, the contents being spread over farm land.

### Sanitary Inspection of District.

The Report of the Sanitary Inspector follows mine and gives a detailed account of the inspection of the district.

The Sanitary Inspector has furnished me with the following statement

Number and nature of inspections made by him during the year :—

Inspections of houses and premises	...	...	447
Inspections under Housing and Town Planning Act	...	...	37
Visits <i>re</i> Infectious Disease	...	...	57
Visits <i>re</i> Tuberculosis	...	...	31
Re-Inspections and Re-visits	...	...	1853
Slaughter-houses	...	...	749
Cowsheds	...	...	45
Workshops	...	...	80
Vans	...	...	47
Bakehouses	...	...	39
Offensive Trade Premises	...	...	21
Food Stores	...	...	5
Preliminary Notices served	...	...	281
Preliminary Notices complied with	...	...	235
Statutory Notices served	...	...	133
Statutory Notices complied with	...	...	69

### Smoke Abatement.

No action was taken during the year.

### Schools.

Recommendations were made during the year to the County School Medical Officer as to the closure of the following Schools. In each case the School was closed as recommended.

- 1st March : Hill Street Infants, one week from 2nd March. Chickenpox and Measles.
- 1st March : Wollaston St. James' Infants, one week from 2nd March. Chickenpox and Measles.
- 9th March : Hill Street Infants, one week from 9th March. Chickenpox and Measles.
- 16th March : Old Swinford St. Mary's Infants, 17th to 27th March, inclusive. Chickenpox, Measles and Influenza.

Notices were sent to the Schools for the exclusion of scholars from those houses where cases of infectious diseases occurred.

The water supply of all the Schools is from the Water Board's Mains, and is satisfactory.

### HOUSING.

#### General Housing Conditions.

According to the 1921 Census returns, 164 houses in the Borough were occupied by two families and 2 houses by four families. There are still a considerable number of houses occupied by more than one family. The applications for Council houses at the end of 1925 included 220 applicants living in apartments in the Borough.

In 1920 the estimated population was 18,013 and the approximate number of inhabited houses was 4176, giving an average of 4.3 persons per house. In 1925 the average number of persons per house was 4.19. (Estimated population 18,770, approximate number of houses 4,472).

The numbers of houses erected since 1920 are as follows :—

1920	...	...	...	33
1921	...	...	...	75
1922	...	...	...	110
1923	...	...	...	58
1924	...	...	...	17
1925	...	...	...	46
Total ...				339

232 of these have been erected by the Town Council under the Housing Schemes.

During the five years, 1920-1924, 27 houses were either demolished or ceased to be used as dwellings. In 1925, 3 houses were demolished.

At the end of 1925, 28 houses were in course of erection as an addition to the Town Council's Housing Scheme, and it is suggested to extend the Scheme by 112 additional houses.

Three cases of overcrowding came under observation during the year, one of which was at a Common Lodging House. The latter was abated, also one of the other cases.

No important change of population is anticipated.

### **Fitness of Houses.**

There are no overcrowded areas in the Borough. A number of old small houses still exist, but considerable improvements have been effected in these in the past. The Sanitary Inspector's Report contains details of these improvements.

### **Unhealthy Areas.**

No complaints were received or representations made.

### **General and Miscellaneous.**

As will be seen in the Report of the Sanitary Inspector a considerable number of houses have been provided with sinks and water taps inside, these are in addition to sinks in the common wash-houses. No steps were taken by the Local Authority respecting information as to use of sinks and water closets, as these conveniences generally are kept in good order.

## **INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**

This work is carried out by the Sanitary Inspector and his report gives details respecting Slaughterhouses, Milk Supply, Meat and other foods.

# PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

## List of Cases of Infectious Diseases, etc., for the past Five Years.

DISEASE.	1921			1922			1923			1924			1925		
	Total No. of Cases	Cases to Hos- pital.	Deaths	Total No. of Cases	Cases to Hos- pital.	Deaths	Total No. of Cases	Cases to Hos- pital.	Deaths	Total No. of Cases	Cases to Hos- pital.	Deaths	Total No. of Cases	Cases to Hos- pital.	Deaths
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Diphtheria	47	30	6	7	3	1	9	7	—	9	5	—	14	8	1
Scarlet Fever ...	43	30	—	43	25	1	15	10	—	46	25	—	30	23	—
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	3	—	—
Pneumonia ...	27	—	11	35	—	20	27	—	9	40	—	16	55	—	6
Erysipelas ...	3	—	1	8	—	—	9	—	—	10	—	—	6	—	—
Chickenpox ...	—	*—	—	*—	—	—	60	—	—	94	—	—	130	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals ...	121	60	18	93	28	22	123	17	9	205	26	16	241	32	8
Zymotic Disease Death Rate ...	1.21			1.52			.49			.53			.32		

\*Not Notifiable.

## Causes of Sickness.

Chickenpox was very prevalent, 130 cases being notified compared with 94 in 1924. This condition has been made notifiable by the Town Council until 31st December 1926. The cases of Pneumonia increased from 40 in 1924 to 55 in 1925. Scarlet Fever cases decreased from 46 in 1924 to 30 in 1925 while Diphtheria cases increased from 9 in 1924 to 14 in 1925. One case of Smallpox occurred. No case of Poliomyelitis occurred. There was one case of Encephalitis Lethargica—the only case notified in the last five years.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is supplied free of charge to the Medical Practitioners in the Borough. The one case of Encephalitis Lethargica was a male age 67 years. Only one case was discovered which could be alleged to be a “return” case of scarlet fever.

Bacteriological specimens are examined by the County Bacteriologist at Worcester.

Eight deaths occurred from Influenza in 1925. In the preceding four years the number of deaths were, 1924 : 8 ; 1923 : 3 ; 1922 : 8, and in 1921, 3. In February 1920 handbills on hints and precautions respecting this disease were distributed in the district.

There are no facilities for the cleansing and disinfection of verminous persons and their belongings other than those which can be done in the homes of the infested persons.

Houses where infectious diseases occur are fumigated with formalin and the bedding and clothing disinfected at the Isolation Hospital. In cases where deaths or removals of Tuberculosis patients occur the rooms occupied are sprayed, fumigated and washed down.

### Smallpox.

A case of Smallpox was notified on 10th June, 1925. The patient returned from holiday on the 2nd June. He was living in apartments and fortunately the only other inmate of the house had recently been re-vaccinated. He was immediately removed to the Smallpox Hospital and the house and all bedding, clothing, carpets and washable goods were thoroughly disinfected. The office where he was engaged was fumigated and the room used by him was cleansed. He had attended Committee meetings of a Public Body, and all the members who had been present were notified of the case and suggestions made to them as to the desirability of re-vaccination. Dr. Sinton, as Public Vaccinator, re-vaccinated all known contacts as far as possible. The Medical Officers of the districts where the patient had visited whilst on holiday, and the Medical Officers of the neighbouring districts of Stourbridge, were immediately notified of the case. No evidence was available of any other known case in those districts.

### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1925.

Disease.	Ages.												Total No. of Cases.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
	Under 1 year.	1 to 2 years.	2 to 3 years.	3 to 4 years.	4 to 5 years.	5 to 10 years.	10 to 15 years.	15 to 20 years.	20 to 35 years.	35 to 45 years.	45 to 65 years.	65 and upward.			
Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—
Diphtheria	—	—	3	2	1	2	2	2	2	—	—	—	14	8	1
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	1	5	20	3	1	—	—	—	—	30	23	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	3	—	—
Pneumonia	3	2	1	1	2	5	4	7	10	8	6	6	55	—	6
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	6	—	—
Chicken Pox	6	12	5	9	14	60	17	6	1	—	—	—	130	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Totals ...	11	14	9	13	22	87	26	16	16	9	10	10	243	32	8

Table Showing Months in which the Cases occurred.

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov	Dec.	Total.
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	3	2	2	—	—	—	4	3	—	14
Scarlet Fever ...	1	—	1	2	1	3	4	1	—	8	6	3	30
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Fever ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	3
Pneumonia ...	—	5	7	2	5	5	3	3	—	8	5	12	55
Erysipelas ...	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	6
Chickenpox ...	14	14	9	21	20	13	9	2	8	5	8	7	130
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
	16	20	19	29	28	25	17	7	9	26	24	23	243

The 30 cases of Scarlet Fever occurred in 26 houses as follows :—

2 Cases in 1 house of 2 bedrooms and 11 occupants.

2	„	I	„	2	„	4	„
2	„	I	„	3	„	9	„
2	„	I	„	3	„	4	„
I	„	I	„	I	„	3	„
I	„	I	„	I	„	5	„
2	„	2	„	2	„	3	„
I	„	I	„	2	„	4	„
I	„	I	„	2	„	6	„
I	„	I	„	3	„	12	„
2	„	2	„	3	„	3	„
3	„	3	„	3	„	4	„
I	„	I	„	3	„	5	„
3	„	3	„	3	„	6	„
3	„	3	„	3	„	8	„
I	„	I	„	4	„	3	„
I	„	I	„	4	„	4	„
I	„	I	„	5	„	4	„

The 14 cases of Diphtheria occurred in 11 houses, 3 houses had 2 cases each and the remaining 8 were in 8 different houses. Two cases occurred in Council Houses.

## TUBERCULOSIS. 1925.

Age. Periods.	Cases added to Register.								Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.				Non-Pulmonary.				Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M		F.		M.		F.		M.	F.	M.	F.
	New Cases.	Transfers.	New Cases.	Transfers.	New Cases.	Transfers.	New Cases.	Transfers.				
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1
5-10 "	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20 "	1	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
20-25 "	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
25-35 "	3	1	2	1	1	—	—	—	3	3	—	—
35-45 "	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
45-55 "	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—
55-65 "	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
	11	4	10	1	2	—	3	—	10	8	—	1

The Tuberculosis Death Rate for 1925 was 1.01.

## CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

YEAR.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1921	12	8	7	2	11	8	2	2
1922	11	10	2	5	8	8	3	—
1923	10	15	4	5	7	10	2	2
1924	6	3	2	4	2	6	1	1
1925	15	11	2	3	10	8	—	1

## SUMMARY OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON THE REGISTER AT END OF 1925.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males.	Females	Males	Females
No. of Cases on Register, 1st Jan. 1925 ...	36	28	10	19
No. of Notifications and Transfers during 1925 ...	15	11	2	3
	51	39	12	22
No. of Removals during 1925 ...	12	7	—	2
Total remaining on Register, 31st Dec. 1925...	39	32	12	20

**Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.**

There are no known cases where Tuberculous patients are employed by Milk Producers or Retailers residing in the Borough.

**OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.**

CASES.			Vision Unim- paired.	Vision Im- paired.	Total Blind- ness.	Deaths.
NOTIFIED	TREATED					
	At Home.	In Hospital.				
August 19	Home	—	Yes	—	—	—
September 25	Home	—	Yes	—	—	—

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

GEOFFREY DUDLEY,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b) )	...	46
(b) With State Assistance under Housing Acts :—		
i. By Local Authorities	... ..	Nil
ii. By other Bodies or Persons	... ..	35

1.—Unfit Dwelling Houses. Inspection :—

(1) Total number of Dwelling Houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	... ..	447
(2) Number of Dwelling Houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925	...	37
(3) Number of Dwelling Houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation		3
(4) Number of Dwelling Houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... ..	116

2.—Remedy of defects without Service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective Dwelling Houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	... ..	40
---	--------	----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers :—

A.—Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919, and Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 ...

(1) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	... ..	13
(2) Number of Dwelling Houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices :—		
(a) By Owners	... ..	9
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	... ..	2
(3) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by Owners of intention to close	... ..	0

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	... ..	79
--	--------	----

(2) Number of Dwelling Houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices :—

(a) By Owners ... .. 36

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... .. 0

C.—Proceedings under the Housing Town Planning &c., Act 1909, and Housing Act 1925 :—

(1) Number of Representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders ... .. 4

(2) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... .. 4

(3) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the Dwelling Houses having been rendered fit ... .. 0

(4) Number of Dwelling Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... .. 2

(5) Number of Dwelling Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... .. 0



# ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901, IN CONNECTION WITH FACTORIES WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

## 1.—INSPECTION.

INSPECTIONS MADE BY THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	1	1	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) ... ..	119	7	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises) ... ..	—	—	—
Total ... ..	120	8	—

## 2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect to which Prosec- utions were instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness ... ..	2	1	—	—
Want of ventilation ... ..	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ... ..	3	3	—	—
Want of drainage of floors ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances ... ..	—	—	—	—
<i>Sanitary Accommodation :—</i>				
Insufficient ... ..	4	2	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ... ..	1	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes ... ..	—	—	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bake-house (s. 101) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other offences ... ..	4	1	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921).				
Total ... ..	14	7	—	—

\*Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

THE  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
 OF THE  
**SANITARY INSPECTOR**  
 FOR THE YEAR 1925.

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TO HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
 STOURBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL.

MR. MAYOR, LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you a Report of the work done in my Department during the year 1925, being my Twenty-fifth Annual Report, together with some details of the preceding four years.

**Complaints.**

94 Complaints relating to various insanitary conditions were received during the year. The numbers in the preceding years were :—1921, 115 ; 1922, 103 ; 1923, 97 ; 1924, 124.

**Inspection of District.**

The number of inspections and re-inspections made during the year was 3411, as follows :—

General inspections of houses and premises	...	447
Inspections under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations	... ..	37
Infectious Diseases	... ..	57
Tuberculosis Cases	... ..	31
Re-inspections and re-visits	... ..	1853
Slaughterhouses	... ..	749
Dairies and Cowsheds	... ..	45
Workshops	... ..	80
Vans	... ..	47
Bakehouses	... ..	39
Offensive Trade premises	... ..	21
Food Stores	... ..	5

In making these inspections, 1424 sanitary defects, nuisances, or contraventions of your Byelaws were found. There were 2543 defects not remedied at the end of 1924, these together with 1,424 defects met with during the year 1925, make a total of 3,967 insanitary conditions. 1,655 defects were remedied during the year, thus leaving 2312 insanitary conditions unabated.

The drains of six houses were tested with the smoke machine.

### Notices.

The number of Preliminary intimation Notices sent during the year was 281. In cases of general defects at houses the Notices were in the form of a letter detailing the defects, and suggestions for remedying the same.

The matters dealt with in the preliminary notices were as follows :—  
General defects of houses : 64 notices relating to 142 houses. Defective rain-water spouting and cisterns : 12 notices relating to 20 houses. Insufficient and defective sanitary conveniences : 6 notices relating to 21 houses. Drain defects : 10 notices relating to 12 houses. Defective slop W.C.'s : 2 notices relating to 8 houses. Cleansing rooms after Tuberculosis : 9 notices relating to 9 houses. Obstructed drains : 28 notices relating to 104 houses. Defective ashpits and ashbins : 13 notices relating to 51 houses. Also the following Notices : Dangerous Walls 2. Petroleum Acts 46. Rent books 1. Accumulations and deposits 3. Slaughtering on unlicensed premises, 1. Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 17. Unregistered milksellers, 3. Overcrowding 2. Defective doorsills, 1. Removal of dead body, 1. Fowl-keeping, 1. Outworkers lists, 6. Letting a closed house, 1. Workshops and factories, 10. Disinfection after infectious diseases, 4, and Miscellaneous, 19. Contravention of Byelaws : Slaughterhouses, 12. Tents and Vans, 2. Common Lodging Houses, 1. Offensive trades, 3 and Pigkeeping, 1.

Ten matters were referred to the Borough Surveyor and 5 to the Engineer of the Water Board.

235 of these Notices had been complied with during the year. The work in connection with 19 notices was in progress at the end of the year, and in respect of 27 notices nothing had been done.

When the preliminary intimations are not complied with the matters are reported to your Sanitary Committee in my Monthly Reports, and under your instructions, upon the recommendation of the Sanitary Committee, 124 Statutory Notices were served, in addition to these there were 9 Notices served for the Disinfection and Cleansing of houses. The Notices were as follows :—

Public Health Act, 1875.				
Sec. 94. (Abatement of Nuisances)	...	...	...	47
Sec. 36. (Provision of Additional W.C.'s)	...	...	...	1
Sec. 36 (and Sec. 11 of Public Health Act Amendment Act, 1890) Provision of Ashbins	...	...	...	23
Sec. 257 (Recovery of Expenses)	...	...	...	9
Sec. 94 (and Sec. 35 of P.H. Acts Amend. Act 1907)	...	...	...	4
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.				
Sec. 49 (Provision of Sinks)	...	...	...	1
Sec. 39 (Provision of Additional W.C.'s)	...	...	...	3
Housing, Town Planning, Etc., Act, 1909.				
Sec. 17 (3), (Closing Orders)	...	...	...	7
Sec. 17 (4), (Notices to Occupiers)	...	...	...	3
Sec. 18 (1), (Consideration of Demolition)	...	...	...	4
Housing, Town Planning Etc. Act, 1919.				
Sec. 28 (Repairs to Houses)	...	...	...	1
Housing Act, 1925.				
Sec. 3 (Repairs to Houses)	...	...	...	12
Sec. 3 (3), (Recovery of Expenses)	...	...	...	2
Sec. 11 (2), (Closing Orders)	...	...	...	2
Sec. 14 (4), (Order for Demolition)	...	...	...	4
Towns Improvement Clauses Act, 1847.				
Sec. 74 (Provision of Spouting)	...	...	...	1
Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890.				
Sec. 5 (Cleansing and Disinfection of Houses)	...	...	...	9
				<hr/>

133

At the end of the year, 69 Notices were complied with. The work in respect of 42 was in progress. 22 Notices were outstanding.

Total number of letters written, 934.

The following table gives details of Inspections, Re-inspections, defects found and remedied, and Notices served during the past five years :—

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Inspections, Premises ... ..	549	469	410	484	447
„ Houses (District Regulations) ... ..	38	21	22	11	37
„ Infectious Diseases ... ..	102	49	27	65	57
„ Tuberculosis Cases ... ..	29	30	30	14	31
Re-inspections and re-visits ... ..	1273	1615	2409	1815	1853
Inspections, Slaughterhouses ... ..	176	156	137	166	749
„ Dairies and Cowsheds ... ..	41	31	82	43	45
„ Workshops ... ..	35	35	51	36	80
„ Vans ... ..	43	9	40	80	47
„ Bakehouses ... ..	18	17	12	29	39
„ Offensive Trade premises ... ..	—	—	—	21	21
„ Food Stores ... ..	—	—	—	—	5
Totals : Inspections and re-inspections ... ..	2304	2462	3220	2764	3411
Preliminary Notices served ... ..	143	128	151	176	281
Statutory Notices served ... ..	133	134	110	141	133

### Prosecutions.

The following legal proceedings were taken during the year.

<i>Date.</i>	<i>Premises.</i>	<i>Offence.</i>	<i>Result.</i>
30th Jan.	1, Darke's Yard, High Street	For not complying with Notice to quit these premises (Closing Order)	Ordered to quit by 25th May, 1925.
6th Feb.	13, Field Lane ...	Premises in such a state as to be a nuisance. )	Withdrawn on pay- ment of Costs.  The Notices having been complied with
"	14 "	Ditto	
"	15 "	Ditto	
"	16 "	Ditto	
"	15-16 "	Ditto	
"	17 "	Ditto	
"	18 "	Ditto	
"	17-18 "	Ditto	
"	19 "	Ditto	
"	20 "	Ditto	
"	19-20 "	Ditto	
"	21 "	Ditto	
"	22 "	Ditto	
"	21-22 "	Ditto	
"	23 "	Ditto	
"	24 "	Ditto	
"	23-24 "	Ditto	
27th Feb.	19, Lion Passage ...	For not obeying Order to cease overcrowding.	Adjourned for one week 6th Mar., adjourned for two weeks. 25th Mar., adjourned for two weeks. 17th April, Withdrawn as defendant had left the house.
30th Oct.	97, Birmingham St.	For recovery of ex- penses incurred under Sec. 28 H.T.P. Act, 1919.	Order made for pay- ment of expenses £58 7s. 9d.
30th Oct.	99, Birmingham St.	Ditto	Order made for pay- ment of expenses £53 12s. 9d.
30th Oct.	89, Enville Street ...	Keeping Petroleum without licence.	Fined £1 and Costs, also Solicitor's Fee, £1 1s. 0d.

The numbers of cases in preceding years were 1921, 3; 1922, 9; 1923, 9; 1924, 18.

### Offensive Trades.

No new business was sanctioned during the year. In June it was found that a business of gut-scraper had been commenced without permission, this was abandoned after attention was called to the offence. There are 10 fish fryers, 6 tripe boilers, 1 hide and skin dealer and 1 leather dresser. A business as a fat melter has been given up.

### Bakehouses.

There are 17 bakehouses in the district, 5 of them being places where mechanical power is used. The occupier of one bakehouse ceased business.

### Factory and Workshop Act.

There are 205 Workshops on the Register. The trades carried on are :—Bag-making, Baking, Basket-making, Brewing, Boat-building, Boot-repairing, Bucket-handle making, Cabinet-making and Upholstery, Chainmaking, Chamois Leather Dressing, Cycle Repairing, Decorating, Dressmaking, Eating Houses, Electrical Fittings, Frost Cog Making, Glass Engraving, Horseshoe Making, Horse Shoeing, Jewellery and Watch Repairing, Joinery, Knitting, Ladies' Outfitting, Laundry, Letter Cutting, Millinery, Motor Repairs, Motor Body Building, Marine Stores, Nailmaking, Picture Framing, Plumbing,. Railway Wagon Repairing, Rug-clipping Dressing, Saddlery, Sheet Metal Cutting, Smithy (General), Stonemasonry, Tailoring, Tin and Whitesmith, Wheelwright, Wireless Apparatus.

Two Notices of defects were received from H.M. Inspector of Factories viz. :—

(1) Obstructed drain at Factory	...	Obstruction removed.
(2) Dirty Workshop ...	...	Workshop limewashed.

The following defects at Workshops were found :—

Want of cleanliness, 2 ; one had been remedied at the end of the year. Overcrowding, 3, all of which were abated. Insufficient Sanitary Conveniences, 4 ; two had been attended to at the end of the year. Unsuitable Sanitary Convenience, 1 ; this had not been remedied. Other Defects, 4, all of which were remedied.

### Outworkers.

29 Lists of Outworkers were received during the year, containing 54 names of Outworkers, 30 being residents outside this district. The names of the latter were sent to the Local Authorities in whose districts they resided. One name of an Outworker in this district was received from the Local Authority in whose district the employer carried on business.

### Common Lodging Houses.

There are three Common Lodging Houses, one being licensed, the other two old registered ones. The returns of the number of lodgers sleeping at these houses during the year totalled as follows :—(The figures represent the number of times the beds were occupied).

Adult Lodgers.		Lodgers above 10 and under 21.		Lodgers under 10 years of age.		Total.
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
9230	1975	—	15	64	33	11317

No case of Infectious Disease occurred at a Common Lodging House. One case of Overcrowding was remedied.

### **Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations.**

During the year 37 houses were inspected under these Regulations.

The following dwelling houses were reported to your Sanitary Committee as being unfit for human habitation, and upon the recommendation of the Committee you made Closing Orders, as follows :—

26th Jan. Caravan and Shed, Sandy Lane.  
 25th Feb. No. 16, Birmingham Street.  
 25th Feb. No. 18, Birmingham Street.  
 27th July No. 17, Pedmore Road.

At the end of the year the houses were still occupied, but the caravan had been removed.

### **Housing (General).**

On 27th July you made Demolition Orders in respect of the following two houses :—

No. 1, Unwin Passage.  
 No. 2, Unwin Passage.

At the end of the year no further steps had been taken.

On 30th January, legal proceedings were taken before the Magistrates, against the Occupier of No. 1, Darke's Yard, High Street, for not complying with a Notice served upon him requiring him to cease inhabiting this house. An Order to quit by 25th May, 1925, was made. The Occupier left the house on 15th May and it was demolished by the Owner on 4th June.

No. 22, Pedmore Road, in respect of which a Closing Order was made on 29th October, 1923, became vacant on 22nd June, 1925. The Owner being desirous of repairing it I supplied him with a plan and specification, and at the end of the year the work was being done.

Notices under Sec. 94 of the Public Health Act, 1875 had been served upon the Owner of Nos. 25, 27, 29, Chawnhill, on 8th July, 1924, who obtained vacant possession, and by May 1925, had demolished No. 29, and converted Nos. 25 and 27 into one house.

In May 1920, an Inquiry was held in respect of an Appeal against Closing Orders made by the Town Council relating to Nos. 13, 15 and 17, and Nos. 1 and 2, at rear of Nos. 13 and 15, Green Street. In May 1921, the Ministry of Health sent to the Owner an abridged Specification of necessary repairs. On 11th November, 1924, the Ministry was informed that the work had been completed, and were reminded of an undertaking given by the Owner to the effect that upon any one of the back-to-back houses becoming vacant it should be converted into a through house with the house at front or rear as the case may be. Up to the present no house has become vacant.

In 1912 I suggested to several property owners the desirability of removing wash-houses and W.C.'s which were used in common, and replacing them with a scullery and W.C. for each house, with access to the W.C. from the scullery. This suggestion has been adopted by many owners, and during 1925, eleven new sculleries were erected, making in all, 91 since 1912.

The Notices served under Sec. 28 of the Housing Town Planning, Etc., Act, 1919, in respect of Nos. 97 and 99, Birmingham Street, not having been complied with, you instructed me to have the work done. This was carried out and completed in May 1925 and legal proceedings were taken on 30th October for the recovery of the expenses, viz. : £58 7s. 9d. and £53 12s. 9d, respectively. Orders were made for payment of the expenses and interest. On 30th November 1925, you adopted a recommendation of the Sanitary Committee to the effect that the amount of the expenses, interest and Court Fees should be payable by monthly instalments of £1 17s. 0d., until the whole amount had been repaid. The rents are now collected by your Collector.

Closing Orders in respect of twenty-four houses are still in operation.

A Closing Order was made in respect of No. 13, Griffiths' Court, Birmingham Street, on 26th March, 1916, this house remained void from 1916 until February 1925, when it was re-let after being repaired, although the Closing Order had not been rescinded. At the Sanitary Committee in February it was decided not to take action against the Owner for re-letting the house, and at the same time an application for rescission of the Closing Order was refused.

There are a number of old small houses in the Borough, most of these have been thoroughly repaired in the past. The general defects found consist of general depreciation of the building, roofs and inside plaster. There are still many having sanitary conveniences used in common,

mostly being one for two houses. There are 24 back-to-back houses. In many cases where there is one wash-house for several houses, each of the houses has a sink and water tap inside. Since 1910, 577 houses have been provided with a sink inside, and 542 houses had water taps provided inside. In addition to these, at a considerable number of houses where there was a water tap used jointly, and situate in the common yard, a water tap was placed inside each wash-house.

### Slaughterhouses.

In 1901 there were 20 Slaughterhouses in the district. Three only of these were in use in 1925, and these had been thoroughly repaired; two having had the walls cemented to the height of about five feet, and the other one had been lined with glazed bricks to the height of about seven feet. At 4 premises new Slaughterhouses have been erected to replace those existing in 1901. At the end of 1925 there were 12 Slaughterhouses in the Borough, all annually licensed. Two licences were granted in 1925, one for premises erected in 1907 but not used for several years, the other for a building formerly used as a stable where a new floor had been laid and the walls cemented to the height of about four feet. The Slaughterhouses are as follows :—

<i>Situation.</i>			<i>User.</i>
33, Worcester Street	...	...	Mr. P. B. Barnes
65, Enville Street	...	...	Mr. W. A. A. Broadway
51, Hill Street	...	...	Mr. John S. Edwards
115, Bridgnorth Road	...	...	Mr. W. Harris
127, Bridgnorth Road	...	...	Mr. H. T. Harding
Rear 13, Coventry Street	...	...	Mr. T. W. Jones, Mr. F. Powell and Mrs. S. C. Mason
Rear 13, Coventry Street	...	...	Messrs. H. and J. Parkes
104, Hagley Road	...	...	Messrs. H. and J. Parkes
The Heath	...	...	Mr. T. V. Parkes
53, Enville Street	...	...	Mr. F. T. White
17, Enville Street	...	...	Mr. R. W. Wyatt
148, Hagley Road	...	...	Mr. W. J. Yardley

The following are the particulars of Slaughterhouses at the dates stated :—

		1920	January 1925	December 1925
Registered	...	...	1	...
Annually Licensed	...	...	11	...
		—	—	—
Total	...	...	12	...
		—	—	—

The total number of visits to Slaughterhouses during 1925 was 749.

### Public Health (Meat) Regulations.

These Regulations came into operation on 1st April, 1925.

At your Sanitary Committee in January, I was instructed to call a meeting of the Meat Traders of the Borough in order to discuss the Regulations with them, and to report the result of this meeting, also to report on the Regulations. A meeting was held on 2nd February, 1925, and the following is a copy of my Report to your Sanitary Committee on the 9th February, 1925.

#### "THE PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

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"TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SANITARY COMMITTEE..

"In accordance with the instructions given at your Meeting on the 12th January last, I beg to make a report respecting the above Regulations, and the methods suggested in carrying them out.

"As Occupiers of Slaughterhouses have to give Notice of Slaughter of Animals, I called a meeting of the Butchers in the Town. This Meeting was held on Monday the 2nd inst, and was attended by 14 Meat Traders, including representatives of the Local Meat Traders Federation. Two occupiers of Slaughterhouses did not attend. The following is a summary of the suggestions agreed to :—

#### " *Notices of Slaughtering.*

"Owing to Cattle being purchased at different places on different days and the inability to say when the animals would be delivered at the Slaughterhouses, it was not possible to fix any one day in the week for slaughtering, and it was arranged that slaughtering should take place on three days of the week, viz. : Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, during the next three months, during three hours to be fixed later, and that Special Notices be given of slaughtering on other days. During the Summer months the meat will be prepared later in the week and it may be necessary for each individual butcher to give separate Notices.

#### " *Meat Marking.*

"This was considered to be unnecessary in this Town.

#### " *Handling of Meat by Customers.*

"The Meeting suggested that the Town Council should issue printed Notices for exhibition in shops on the lines mentioned in the Minister of Health's Circular 547, of 29th December, 1924, viz. : requesting customers not to handle meat exposed for sale,

*"Pig-killing on Private Premises.*

"Those present at the Meeting expressed their willingness to permit customers to slaughter bacon pigs in their Slaughterhouses, but thought the Town Council should take action against those persons who regularly kill pigs and who have no licensed Slaughterhouse.

*"Shops, Stores, etc.*

"It was generally agreed to take proper precautions to comply with the requirements relating to prevention of contamination of meat by flies, dust, mud and other filth, but it was pointed out that meat is frequently sold by green-grocers and small shopkeepers who expose it without any attempt to prevent contamination from other goods in the shop. (Meat also includes bacon, ham and edible offal).

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"Under Article 11 of the Regulations, Local Authorities are required to inform the Occupiers of Slaughterhouses to whom Notices of Slaughter must be sent, and to publish such information in one or more Local Newspapers circulated within the district.

"I suggest an advertisement in the following terms:—

"The Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924. Occupiers of Slaughterhouses and other persons slaughtering cattle, swine, sheep or goats for the purpose of selling the meat for human consumption, must give at least three hours Notice before the time of slaughtering, and must not remove or cause to be removed the carcass of the animal or the internal organs, until after the expiration of three hours from the time of slaughter, or six hours from the delivery of such Notice. All Notices must be sent to the Sanitary Inspector, Town Hall, Market Street, Stourbridge."

"I also suggest that a Circular Letter should be sent to every Retail Meat Dealer calling attention to the provisions relating to shops, stores, etc., and in addition a handbill for exhibition in the shops requesting customers not to handle meat.

"(Every Occupier of a Stall in the Market will be required to keep his name and address exhibited).

"If the Regulations are to be properly carried out my time for office work will be curtailed, also the general inspection of houses. I, therefore, beg to suggest, that a competent Clerk be appointed and that my present Assistant be appointed as Assistant Sanitary Inspector, and that a motor-cycle be provided.

"The general work of my office has considerably increased and is constantly being added to. The work under the Petroleum Acts is increasing rapidly and recently additional clerical work in respect of Tuberculosis has been required by the Ministry of Health."

Each Meat Trader in the Borough was supplied with a copy of the Regulations, and printed cards were supplied requesting customers not to handle meat exposed for sale.

The following is copy of a letter sent by the Town Clerk to the Ministry of Health relating to Pig-killing on Unlicensed Premises, and the Ministry's reply.

"Town Hall,  
"Stourbridge.

*24th February, 1925.*

"The Secretary,  
"Ministry of Health,  
"Whitehall, S.W.1.

"SIR,

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

"I am directed by the Town Council of this Borough to enquire if  
"the Minister of Health will kindly reply to the following enquiry  
"relating to Pig-killing by Cottagers, which arises in connection with  
"the administration of the above Regulations :—

"Whether it is permissible for a private person to slaughter  
"a pig on his premises, not registered or licensed as a Slaughter-  
"house, partly for his own consumption and partly for sale,  
"upon giving the necessary Notice of his intention to slaughter,  
"as required by the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924,  
"also whether the Officer appointed should inspect the carcass.

"Some cottagers rear pigs and occasionally slaughter one or two.  
"In the case of bacon pigs the inside meat is sold whilst in the case of  
"porket pigs the whole of the meat, excepting joints required for the  
"growers own family, is sold to neighbours.

"The Town Council have read the Minister of Health's letter of the  
"22nd January, 1925, to Lord Banbury and Sir Henry Cantley, Bart.,  
"but this does not clearly state the position as regards the points  
"mentioned in the above enquiry. The Town Council have in a few  
"instances prosecuted persons for slaughtering upon unlicensed  
"premises, but have been reluctant to take action where the slaughtering  
"is done at irregular and long intervals, but the position now is that if  
"Notice of such slaughtering is not given an offence, under the  
"Regulations is committed, whilst when Notice is given, the Town  
"Council is faced with the problem of either prosecuting under the  
"Public Health Acts or ignoring the law that animals slaughtered for  
"sale must be slaughtered in a registered or licensed Slaughterhouse.  
"In the latter case, those who are compelled to comply with the  
"bye-laws relating to Slaughterhouses have a grievance.

"As a general rule occupiers of Slaughterhouses do not encourage  
"private pig-killers to use their Slaughterhouses, and do not care to  
"slaughter and dress pigs for others.

“There is no Public Abattoir here. The Slaughterhouses in the Town are all subject to annual licences and two of the Slaughterhouses are used by more than one Meat Trader.

“I am, Sir,

“Your obedient Servant,

“J. DONALDSON HARWARD, *Town Clerk.*”

The reply from the Ministry was as follows :—

“Ministry of Health,

“Whitehall, S.W.1.

3rd March, 1925.

“The Town Clerk,

“Town Hall,

“Stourbridge.

“SIR,

“Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

“In reply to your letter of the 24th instant, I am directed by the Minister of Health to point out that there is no Statutory Enactment which requires in terms that animals slaughtered for sale for human consumption must be slaughtered in a slaughterhouse, and he is advised that the occasional slaughter of an animal on the premises of the Owner does not constitute the place of slaughter a “slaughter-house.”

“In his opinion, therefore, the Council may continue without impropriety or disregard of their statutory duties to permit slaughtering of the occasional character described to take place on unlicensed or unregistered premises ; but the slaughterer is not absolved from the duty imposed by the Regulations of giving notice of his intention to slaughter to the Council, if any part of the animal killed is to be sold for human consumption.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) F. L. TURNER.”

In all cases when pigs had been killed on private premises for the purpose of sale and it was contemplated to kill others soon afterwards, the occupiers of the premises were warned, upon your instructions, that such procedure could not be considered “occasional slaughter,” and that unless the other animals were slaughtered in a licensed slaughterhouse it would be looked upon as an offence.

An application for the erection of a new Slaughterhouse in Bowling Green Road was granted, but at the end of the year no steps had been taken to erect it.

An application to use an existing building as a Slaughterhouse, and an application to erect a new Slaughterhouse were refused.

Since 1st April, Notices of Slaughter of the following animals were received :—

	Oxen.	Pigs.	Sheep	Calves.	Total.
In Licensed Slaughterhouses ...	429	724	1410	60	2613
On Private Premises ...	1	46	4	—	51
Number of carcasses Examined	386	681	1037	32	2136
Percentage of Slaughtered Animals Examined ...	90	88	73	53	80

The slaughtering of an ox on private premises was a case of emergency.

### Meat and Food Inspection.

The following were seized and Justices' Orders obtained to destroy same :—

Carcasses and offal of two pigs. Generalized Tuberculosis.

The following were condemned and voluntarily surrendered :—

Carcass and offal of 1 pig	...	Generalized Tuberculosis
Heads of 3 pigs	...	Tuberculosis
An ox head	...	Ditto
Lungs of 2 oxen and 1 pig	...	Ditto
Lungs of 2 sheep	...	Parasitic
Liver of 1 pig	...	Tuberculosis
Livers of 5 oxen, also halves of 2 livers	...	Cirrhosis, Echinococcus.
66-lbs. of Fish	...	Decomposition

The weight being approximately  $7\frac{1}{2}$  cwts.

The condemned meat was buried at the Corporation Refuse Tip.

No food exposed for sale was seized.

On 15th June, I reported to your Sanitary Committee that each Meat Trader who had been asked, had fixed a screen on the door side of his shop window.

### Public Abattoir.

The question of the provision of a Public Abattoir was considered in 1911, and a Special Committee went fully into the subject, but owing to anticipated opposition of the local Meat Traders, the matter was not proceeded with. In 1919 representatives of the local Meat Traders' Association approached me on the subject, and the question was again considered by your Sanitary Committee, but, principally on account of the high cost of building at that time, no recommendation was made.

At your Sanitary Committee Meeting in December, 1923, the matter was again considered when it was decided that the Committee appointed to consider and report on Refuse Disposal should also deal with the Abattoir question. This Committee had not made a report on the subject at the end of the year.

### **Dairies and Cowsheds.**

During the year the following were registered:—3 Retailers of ordinary milk, 2 of whom reside outside the district. 3 Retailers of bottled milk. 1 Retail and Wholesale Dealer of Grade "A" who resides outside the district. There are now on the Register, 28 Retailers of ordinary milk residing in this district (12 of these are Producers and 1 a Wholesale Dealer); 13 Retailers of ordinary milk residing outside the Borough. 21 Retailers of bottled milk. 1 Retailer of bottled milk, who is also a Wholesale Dealer, and the Retailer of Grade "A" milk, who is also a Wholesale Dealer, both of whom reside outside this district.

Three unregistered milk sellers were found, and warned. All applied for registration.

There are, approximately, 65 cows in the Borough.

The following table gives the number of cow keepers and cows, and shows that cow keeping in the Borough is diminishing:—

Year.	No. of Cow-keepers.		No. of Cows.
1910	...	31	150
1911	...	29	132
1915	...	29	137
1920	...	13	88
1921	...	15	89
1922	...	19	85
1923	...	13	80
1924	...	15	86
1925	...	12	65

### **Disinfection.**

Rooms at 65 houses and approximately 600 articles of bedding and clothing were disinfected. Ten rooms which had been occupied by patients suffering from Tuberculosis were stripped of wallpaper, sprayed, and thoroughly disinfected. Disinfectant fluid, to the amount of 90 gallons, was issued to householders during the year.

### **Extermination of Vermin.**

Insecticide was supplied to the occupiers of 21 houses which were infested with bugs, the results were favourable. Two houses were also fumigated.

### Water Closets.

During the year 3 privies were converted into water closets, 2 being at one Chapel and the other at another Chapel. 6 slop W.C.'s were converted into fresh-water flushing W.C.'s. 13 additional W.C.'s were provided.

The number of privies converted into water closets since 1901, and the additional W.C.'s provided, are as follows :—

Water closets in place of privies	...	...	1062
Additional water closets provided	...	...	218
Slop water closets converted into fresh-water flushing W.C.'s	...	...	62

During the 5 years, 1921-25, there have been :

Privies converted into water closets	...	4
Additional water closets provided	...	83
Slop W.C.'s converted into fresh-water flushing W.C.'s	...	30

There are 10 privies remaining and these are situated at premises which cannot be connected to sewers, with the exception of one at a factory which is under notice for conversion.

### Ashpits.

Ashpits commenced to be abolished in 1901, and portable receptacles for house refuse provided. Most of the houses since then are provided with movable ashbins. At the end of 1925 there were 2,424 houses with portable receptacles for house refuse.

## GENERAL SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK CARRIED OUT AND INSANITARY CONDITIONS REMEDIED DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

### Dwelling Houses.

Baking Ovens removed	...	33	Ceilings, plaster renewed or repaired	...	56
Bedrooms, floors repaired	...	37	Ceilings relathed	...	20
Bedrooms, new floors	...	7	Cellar lights, new gratings and frames provided	...	73
Bedrooms, angle filletting provided	...	73	Cellars, lighted and ventilated	...	3
Bedrooms, new skirting boarding	...	22	Cellars, cleaned out and lime washed	...	22
Cleansed, white washed and repapered	...	477	Cellars paved	...	2
Chimneys repaired	...	121	Coal places, new erected	...	27

Coal places, repaired ...	3	Walls, internal replastered...	109
Demolished ...	16	„ internal removed ...	2
Damp-proof courses put in ...	53	„ tie rods and plates provided ...	3
Door sills, new put in ...	68	„ pointed or cemented externally ...	54
Doors, repaired and rehung ...	66	Windows, made to open ...	74
„ new provided ...	10	„ new additional put in ...	48
„ weather boards provided ...	8	repaired or renewed ...	285
Doorway bricked up ...	1	„ sash cords, weights and pulleys provided	123
Floors repaved and repaired	199	Yards, paved ...	61
Firegrates repaired or renewed ...	15	Paving repaired or relaid ...	36
Food places ventilated ...	8		
„ windows put in ...	8	<b>Sinks.</b>	
Rain-water cisterns, cleansed and repaired ...	15	Brick sinks repaired ...	7
Rain-water cisterns, pumps provided ...	3	New earthenware put in sculleries or wash-houses ...	128
Rain-water cisterns, pumps repaired ...	6	New additional earthenware put inside houses ...	38
Rain-water cisterns filled up	1	Sink waste pipes put in ...	197
Roofs repaired ...	187	Sink waste pipes repaired ...	24
„ renewed ...	34		
Repaired throughout ...	162	<b>Water Supply.</b>	
Sculleries, new erected ...	43	Old wells filled up ...	9
„ repaired ...	5	Water taps put inside houses	72
„ paved ...	9		
„ rebuilt ...	5	<b>Drains.</b>	
Stairs, repaired ...	64	Relaid ...	20
„ renewed ...	21	Reconstructed ...	59
„ Handrails provided ...	49	New chambers put in ...	10
Steps renewed or repaired ...	81	Ventilated ...	27
Ventilating air bricks put in bedrooms ...	20	New, put to houses ...	40
Washhouses, thoroughly repaired ...	56	Additional gullies put in ...	70
„ washing boilers provided ...	8	Repaired ...	44
„ supplied with water taps ...	39	Obstructions removed ...	428
„ Washing boilers repaired ...	17	Chamber covers renewed ...	6
„ taken down ...	14	New syphons put in ...	4
„ rebuilt ...	3		
„ floors renewed ...	18	<b>Ashpits.</b>	
Walls, external rebuilt ...	23	Removed ...	54
„ internal rebuilt ...	27	Filled up and paved ...	11
„ cemented internally ...	41	Houses, ashbins provided ...	525
„ matchboarding removed	7		

**Rain Water Spouting.**

New spouting at fronts of	
houses	... 45
,, at rears of	
houses	... 40
Spouting repaired at fronts...	80
,, repaired at rears	... 92
Downpipes lengthened	... 18
Downpipes reconstructed	... 40

**Water Closets.**

New, erected	... 43
Rebuilt	... 42
Additional provided	... 83
New basins put in	... 34
Flushing apparatus repaired	
or renewed	... 49
Fresh water W.C.'s in place	
of slop W.C.'s	... 30

Slop W.C.'s tippers repaired	4
W.C. water supply pipes re-	
newed	... 33
Other Repairs	... 88

**Other Matters.**

Offensive accumulations re-	
moved	... 50
Overcrowding nuisances	
abated	... 8
Pig-keeping nuisances abated	27
Fowl-keeping nuisances abated	18
Vans removed	... 25
Urinals reconstructed	... 1
Urinals, new provided	... 3
Smoke nuisances abated	... 3
Old nail shops removed	... 11
Other nuisances abated	... 168

**Shops Acts.**

There are 505 Shops on the Register. Several shopkeepers were warned of offences, but no proceedings were taken.

**Petroleum Acts.**

45 Petroleum Licences were issued, 31 to store Petrol only, 12 to store Petrol and Carbide of Calcium, and 2 for Carbide of Calcium only. 46 reminder Notices were sent respecting renewals of licences. 37 Notices of Storage of Petrol under the Regulations made under the Locomotives on Highways Acts were received and 46 circulars calling attention to these Regulations were sent. In January an advertisement was inserted in the Local Newspaper respecting Storage of Petrol. The total amount of Petrol stored under licence is 13,284 gallons and the amount of Calcium Carbide, 14½ cwts.

**Council Houses.**

The number of houses is 232, 131 being at the Heath Estate and 101 at the Grange Estate.

The types of houses are :—

	Heath.	Grange.
Parlour and 4 bedrooms	... 20	... 6
Non-Parlour and 4 bedrooms	... —	... 1
Parlour and 3 bedrooms	... 81	... 43
Non-Parlour and 3 bedrooms	... 30	... 51

During the year the tenancies of 21 houses were changed.

35 of the houses at The Heath and 15 at The Grange are occupied by more than one family.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR KENT,

*Sanitary Inspector.*

### HEALTH WEEK.

A Health Week was held in November 1925, and on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, November 25th, 26th and 27th, a Cinematograph Exhibition of films on Health Subjects, with Lectures, was given in the King's Hall.

The films were "The House Fly," "The Invisible Enemy," and "The White Bottle." The latter being loaned free of charge by the National Milk Publicity Council. Leaflets on various Health subjects were distributed amongst the scholars at the Schools; these as well as the specially printed programmes being generously supplied, free of charge, by the Wesleyan and General Assurance Society. Prizes were offered for essays on Health Subjects to scholars attending Schools in Stourbridge, also three cash prizes, value £3 3s. od., £2 2s. od. and £1 1s. od. respectively, were offered to the General Public for essays on "Suggestions for improving Local Health Conditions."

The following presided. Wednesday: Rev. H. H. Williams, M.A., Rector of Old Swinford. Thursday: Randle L. Mathews, Esq., J.P., Mayor of Stourbridge, and Friday: Alderman Samuel Fiddian, Chairman Stourbridge Corporation Gas Committee.

Lectures were given on "The House Fly," by Alderman L. J. Cook, M.R.I.P.H., Chairman, Sanitary Committee; on "The Smoke Problem," by the Sanitary Inspector; on "The Invisible Enemy" (Tuberculosis), by Councillor H. S. Walker, and on "Milk," by the Medical Officer of Health.





